

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. Original Claims 1-18 have been currently amended, and new Claims 19 and 20 have been added. Claim amendments were made relative to the original Claims 1-18, as filed. Support for the amended and new claims can be found throughout the specification and in the original claims. Particular support for the amended Claims 1-13 and 16-18 can be found in the respective original claims. Particular support for amended Claims 14 and 15 can be found in the respective original claims, and on pages 10 and 14-18 of the specification. Particular support for new Claim 19 can be found on pages 9 and 10 of the specification. Particular support for new Claim 20 can be found in original Claim 14, and on pages 10 and 16-18 of the specification. No new matter is believed to have been introduced by the amended and new claims.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is now in condition for examination on the merits, and request early notice of such action.

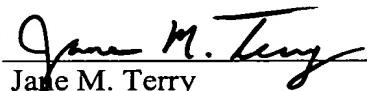
Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.  
Norman F. Oblon

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413-2220  
(OSMMN 06/04)

  
Jane M. Terry  
Registration No. 53,682